GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:629
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2004
IMPORT RESTRICTIONS
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have freed certain items from import/export licensing restrictions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and has there been sudden spurt in their imports due to this;

(c) whether imports licensing restrictions is a part of country`s obligation towards W.T.O.;

(d) if so, whether the domestic industries as well as Directorate of Anti-Dumping are facing lot of difficulties; and

(e) the measures being taken by Government to save Indian farmers and domestic industries from adverse impact of the said decision as well as to reduce the over burden of Directorate of Anti-Dumping?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (e) : India has been following a continuous policy of removal of restrictions since 1991 in keeping with its international commitment. Recently in the mini-Exim Policy announced on 28.1.04, 10 items of import and one category of items of export were made free. All restrictions on import are maintained in terms of Article XX and XXI of the GATT Agreement. Imports are closely monitored and the Government is determined to ensure through the use of tariff and other mechanisms that imports do not cause any serious detriment or injury to the domestic farmers and industry. Towards that end import duties on a number of items have been increased in the last few years. Based on the applications filed by the domestic industry, the DGAD has from 1992 till 30.6.2004, initiated anti-dumping investigations into 169 cases involving a number of countries.